

add special expertise to LB 700, therefore, I oppose the amendment. I also would like to say a direct rebuttal to one of the comments Senator Beutler made relating to what happens after the study is done. A number of states have moved in this direction. A number of states are in the process of correcting the errors which have happened in past years and he makes it sound like, gulp, you have to do everything right now. The reason Washington state is in trouble is that they did not do anything after they had some information. For ten years they did not do anything with the information. Minnesota is doing something. Connecticut has done something. A number of states have used this information for the benefit of their states. This is what I would envision but the first step is the creation of the commission to study the problem and I believe we need all the expertise available and I would support LB 700 in its present form without Senator Beutler's amendment. I intend to vote against it but I intend to vote for the bill. I am not sure Senator Beutler will be supporting 700 even after the amendments. He hasn't stated that publicly.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is the first of perhaps several times that I may be on my feet given the intended agenda of Senator Beutler this morning. I, too, oppose the amendment for several reasons. First, you will recall that he indicated that the agenda of the member of this commission from the Status of Women Commission would be to, and I think this is a direct quote, "to seek out and end discrimination." I would hope that would be the purpose of every member of this commission. I would certainly hope that that would be the purpose of the two legislative members that will serve on this commission, that their very reason for being on that commission is to, "seek out and end discrimination." That is nothing more than to paraphrase what the whole purpose of LB 700 is and there is no reason to disqualify, I think, either the members of the labor union or the members of the sitting board now, of the Commission of the Status of Women rather, from seeking that goal. That goal should be our goal. It should be our representatives' goal on that commission as